

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 7-248492

Date of Publication: September 26, 1995

Date of Filing: March 10, 1994

Application No.: 6-40122

Applicant: Sony Kabushiki Kaisha

Inventor: Kazuo Hashimoto

Partial translation of Page 4, paragraphs [0032] to [0034]  
of the publication.

[0032]

(Forth embodiment) Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view of a liquid crystal view finder. A shutter plate 15 opens and closes a light collecting window 14. When the sunlight is strong, the shutter plate 15 opens the light collecting window 14. As a result, ambient light enters the light collecting window 14 and illuminates an LCD 2. In a relatively dark environment, the shutter plate 15 closes the light collecting window 14 and illuminates the LCD 2 with a back lamp 5. Since the light collecting window 14 is closed by the shutter plate 15 when the back lamp 5 illuminates the LCD 2, the light of the back lamp 5 does not leak out from the light collecting window 14. Thus, the light of the back lamp 5 is used effectively.

[0033]

The opening and closing of the shutter plate may be performed by arranging an ambient light sensor, such as a photodiode (not shown), near the light collecting window 14. The ambient light sensor detects the amount of ambient light to automatically close or open the shutter plate 15.

[0034]

Alternatively, the shutter plate 15 may be automatically closed and opened in accordance with information of the closed amount of an iris, which is an optical mechanism of a video camera.

---